



# 2017 OCTOBER CALENDAR

## OTTER RIVER & LAKE DENNISON Campgrounds

**Park Interpreter: James**

**Park Phone Number: (978) 939-8962**

All programs are free and open to the public. The daily parking fee is \$8.00 or \$15.00 per day, per vehicle.  
 Parking fee is based on Massachusetts residency. Visit your local public-library to obtain a day-pass with your library card.

Reasonable accommodations available upon request. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

For more information, visit [www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/region-central/otter-river-state-forest.html](http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/region-central/otter-river-state-forest.html)

Sunday	Mon	Tue.	Wed.	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> Massachusetts Archeology Month  <b>National Bat Month</b>	<b>2</b>  <b>Healthy Heart Trail Walk</b> 10 – 11am	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>  <b>Walk along the CCC Paths</b> 2 – 4:30 pm	<b>6</b>  <b>Tyke Hike @ Lake Dennison</b> 10 – 11 am  <b>Nature Center Open House: Microscopes</b> 1:30 – 3 pm  <b>Welcome Walk @ Otter River</b> 3:30 – 5 pm  <b>Nature Center Open House: Bird Sound Bingo</b> 5:30 – 6:30 pm	<b>7</b>  <b>“What’s That Tree?”</b> @ Lake Dennison 10 –11:15am  <b>Nature Center Open House</b> 1:30 – 3 pm  <b>Otter River Rover</b> 4 – 5:30 pm  <b>Campfire Program</b> @ Otter River 7 – 8 pm
<b>8</b>  <b>Kidleidoscope: Falling Leaves &amp; Forest Decay</b> 9 – 10:20 am  <b>Days of Yore Shore Tour</b> 1– 2:30 pm  <b>Nature Center Open House: Owl Pellets</b> 3 – 4:30 pm	<b>9</b> <u><b>Columbus Day</b></u>  <b>End of interpretive programs for Season 2017</b>					

# OTTER RIVER NATURE CENTER

<p><b>Nature Center Hours:</b></p> <p><b>FRI 1:30– 3:00pm</b>  <b>5:30 – 6:30pm</b>  <b>SAT 1:30 – 3pm</b>  <b>SUN 3:00 – 4:30pm</b></p>	<p>Join us at the Nature Center to EXPLORE many great activities in our State Forest. Get your bearings of the landscape by surveying a map of our trails and ponds. Examine wildlife furs &amp; animal-track molds, or even see some pretty interesting rocks and minerals up close. Check out a critter skull or examine a bug. Or we have a huge library of nature books. Maybe you'd like to sit down with a great story book! Each day during Open House, we'll look at a particular topic such as animal &amp; bird-sounds; the food web, forestry, using microscope, and wildlife behavior. The <b>Otter River Interpretive Center</b> has something to see and do for all ages, including adults, so why don't you drop by and EXPLORE? *<u>All</u> children must be accompanied by an adult.*</p>
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## PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

<b>Kidleidoscope Kids</b>	This program is for young children, ages 3 - 8 (siblings welcome). Meet at the Otter River SF <b>Craft Center</b> located on Beaman Pond. Kidleidoscope is a fun activity on a weekly topic including a themed story, a short walk and creating a related craft. This program will enable very young children to get acquainted with the outdoors and all the fascinating things found there. All children must be accompanied by a parent or adult.
<b>Days of Yore Shore Tour</b>	<b>Meet the Park Interpreter at the Lake Dennison Day Beach</b> for a leisurely walk through the Picnic Area & Day Beach. We'll explore the western shore of Lake Dennison and discuss the history of the park before it was public land, including former uses of Lake Dennison when it was part of the defunct New Boston Village. Discover old building foundations and other relics of the past. This is a moderately paced 2-mile walk, suitable for all ages interested in local history. Wear comfortable shoes, bring water, dress for the weather and bring bug repellent if desired. All children must be accompanied by an adult.
<b>Healthy Heart Trail Hike</b>	Walking is part of a healthy lifestyle and what better place to hike than in a beautiful state forest. Mass Parks has developed nearly seventy designated "Healthy Heart Trails" that are the core of our park system and we hope you will make them part of your exercise routine. Our Wilder-McKenzie Trail is a designated Healthy-Heart-Trail and runs 1.2 miles each way. We will walk most of the trail and stop occasionally to discuss our surrounding environment. Make sure to wear comfortable clothes and sturdy shoes, bring water, and take sunscreen or insect repellent. Children must be accompanied by parent/guardian. <b>Meet next to the Contact Station at Otter River.</b>
<b>Walk Along the CCC Paths</b>	Meet the Park Interpreter at the Otter River Interpretive Center for this 90-minute walk that will explore the history of the Civilian Conservation Corps. During the 1930s the CCC created this park and its many features three generations ago. This will be a moderate 1.5 mile walk on a flat dirt road suitable for all ages interested in history. Wear comfortable clothes, bring a water bottle.

<b>Tyke Hike</b>	This 60-minute walk is geared for children ages 2 and up, accompanied by a parent or adult. It will be an easy $\frac{3}{4}$ mile walk, looking at plants and animals each week, discovering new and interesting things in the park. Wear comfortable clothes and walking shoes or boots. Bring water and insect repellent if desired. This program is not suitable for strollers. <b>LOCATION: Meet at the Lake Dennison Main Entrance/Contact Station.</b>
<b>Otter River Rover</b>	Follow the Park Interpreter on a long, winding hike downstream and over the railroad tracks from Beaman Pond to Otter River. This hike is on uneven, sandy terrain and covers 2.5 miles in 90 minutes. We'll discuss the Miller's River watershed, flood control at the Birch Hill Dam, and how these features effect the water-cycle. Bring a water bottle and comfortable walking shoes. <b>Meet at the Otter River Interpretive Center</b>
<b>Welcome Walk</b>	After you settle into your campsite, get your bearings and discover our campground. Trees, birds, fish, frogs rocks, mammals and plants—this park has a lot to behold—and a long history of culture too. Join park Interpreter James for a guided walk of the campground's wildlife & history. Or ask him a question about firewood and local amenities. We'll cover 1.5 miles, so wear walking shoes and bring a water bottle. <b>LOCATION: Otter River SF Interpretive Center</b>
<b>“What’s That Tree?”</b>	<b>LOCATION: Meet at Lake Dennison Contact Station/Main Entrance</b> Join your park interpreter for this 75 minute woodland hike and meet the trees, roots and plants that inhabit the forests of Otter River SF & Lake Dennison. Trees have different features which will help us identify their species. We'll discuss forestry and the how trees make animals habitats too. This hike is suitable for all ages capable of a moderate 1.5 mile hike. Wear comfortable clothes, sturdy shoes, bring water, and insect repellent. All children must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.
<b>Campfire Program</b>	Join the Park Interpreter for a welcome campfire. We'll follow Ranger Smokey Bear's five rules to building a safe campfire, and then we'll tell stories, sing songs and stargaze. Please bring a flashlight, chair, and bug-spray. BYOM: bring-your-own-marshmallows. All children must be accompanied by a parent/guardian. <b>LOCATION: Meet at Otter River campsite #3</b>